

MINUTES OF MEETING
State Board of Education
November 16-17, 2005

The November meeting of the Board of Education was held in the State Board Conference Room, Grimes State Office Building, Des Moines. Board members Gene Vincent, Sally Frudden, Charlie Edwards, Sister Jude Fitzpatrick, Rosie Hussey (telephonic), Wayne Kobberdahl, Greg McClain (telephonic), Mary Jean Montgomery, Max Phillips, and Tara Richards were present. Also present were Department Director Judy Jeffrey and staff members Gail Sullivan, Carol Greta, Lee Tack, Jeff Berger, Pam Pfitzenmaier, Susan Fischer, Beverly Bunker, Arlie Willems, Joe Farnsworth, Richard Latch, Su McCurdy, Del Hoover, Jim Reese, Warren Weber, Roger Stirler and Beverlee Adams. Also in attendance were Kris Bell, Governor's Office; Linda Fielding, Gary Sasso and Sandra Damico, University of Iowa; Dwight Carlson, Dale Barber, Becky Shermis, and Lynn Massenzio, Kaplan University; W. Richardson and Jeff Anderson, Ames Community School District; Bob Newsum, Paula Wright and Russ Reiter, Chariton Community School District; Tom Downs and Marti Kline, Southeast Polk Community School District; Dona Goeltsche and Nancy Brown, Area Education Agency 15; Anne Morgan, Linda Perry, and Joel Pedersen, Davis County Community School District; Doug Cameron, Meaghan Hunter, Robin Elliott and Lori Elliott, Grinnell-Newburg Community School District; Dar Danielson, Radio Iowa; Chuck Schoffer, Associated Press; Charlotte Eby, *Lee Newspapers*; Kathy Bolten, *Des Moines Register*; Jeneane Beck, KUNI; Rod Boshart, *Cedar Rapids Gazette*; Michelle-Parker, KCCI; Walter Reed, Director, Kimberly Baxter, and Rossany Brugger, Department of Human Rights; and Rachael Mullins, Davenport Community School District.

President Vincent called the meeting to order. Vincent welcomed new State Board member Max Phillips, Woodward.

It was moved by Mary Jean Montgomery and seconded by Wayne Kobberdahl to approve the agenda as written.

COMMUNICATION

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Director Report

Director Judy Jeffrey reported on the following items:

Department of Education received one of the National Governor's Association Grants to assist in our high school redesign efforts. It would provide \$100,000 to improve teacher quality specifically at high schools. Two high schools will be chosen to participate in the process.

Recognition of Sally Frudden for being awarded the Distinguished Alumni Award from Iowa State University. This award recognizes meritorious service in education.

Presentation of a \$25,000 Milken Award to an Iowa educator. This surprise award was presented by Lt. Governor Pederson and the Director to David Eidahl, an Ottumwa Middle School Principal. The money may be used in any way the educator chooses.

Announced the 2006-07 Teacher of the Year as Jacquelyn Warnstadt, an elementary teacher from Sioux City.

Five Blue Ribbon Schools in Iowa have been announced. They are 1) Hawthorne Elementary School, Keokuk; 2) Irving Weber Elementary School, Iowa City; 3) Madison Elementary School, Muscatine; 4) Pella High School, Pella; and 5) Whiting High School, Whiting. Five nominations were submitted to the U.S. Department of Education and all five were selected.

Update on NAEP Scores results that were released on October 18, 2005.

Review of Community College Visits and their outstanding programs both for national and international students as well as meeting employer needs in their areas. There are two college visits remaining and Jeffrey expressed her appreciation to the Board members that had accompanied her on these trips.

First meeting to review and revise the Community College Strategic Plan was held.

Update on Olin Community School District. It is now in compliance with all of the areas of accreditation that were cited.

Director Jeffrey met with the following groups:

- Statewide Administrative Mentoring Network
- Professors of Educational Administration
- Area Education Agencies
- Iowa Association of Career and Technical Education

- School Counselor Association
- City Superintendents
- Math/Science and Technology Summit
- Service Learning ??????

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes

The minutes of the September 8-9, 2005 State Board of Education meeting were approved.

State Board Policy Development/Leadership Agenda

The State Board Policy/Leadership proposed agenda was approved.

Requests for Nonpublic School Accreditation

The State Board granted accreditation to add 7th grade to St. Francis of Assisi Elementary School and granted accreditation to add kindergarten to St. John the Baptist in Bancroft, Iowa.

Rules

Chapter 12, “General Accreditation Standards” rule amendments were approved for adoption.

Chapter 17, “Open Enrollment” rule amendments were approved for adoption.

Chapter 77, “Standards for Teacher Intern Preparation Programs” rule amendments were approved for adoption.

Chapter 96, “Local Option Sales and Services Tax for School Infrastructure” rule amendments were approved for adoption.

Practitioner Preparation Program – University of Iowa

Arlie Willems, Administrative Consultant, Practitioner Preparation reviewed the additional information provided from the University of Iowa. This information had been requested at the September State Board meeting. Willems introduced Sandra Damico, Linda Fielding and Gary Sasso, University of Iowa that were in attendance. She outlined the following areas of concern and the University of Iowa response.

- I. Unit Governance and Resources Standards
- II. Diversity Standards

- III. Faculty Standards
- IV. Clinical Practice Standards
- V. Candidate Performance Standards
- VI. Unit Planning and Evaluation

Ms. Willems commended the University of Iowa for the work required in addressing the needs noted in the initial review report. The University of Iowa practitioner preparation programs were recommended for full approval by the State Board of Education.

Board members discussed the new information. Greg McClain expressed his concern about the math content standards requirements. Mary Jean Montgomery complimented the new form used for explanation of these standards.

Motion: It was moved by Sally Frudden and seconded by Sister Jude Fitzpatrick that the State Board approve the University of Iowa's practitioner preparation programs through the next scheduled review cycle.

Vote: The motion was approved with Greg McClain casting a dissenting vote.

Rules: Chapter 6, "Duties and Operational Procedures [Generally Accepted Accounting Principles]

Lee Tack, Administrator, Financial and Information Services, said the major purpose of the proposed amendments to the School Budget Review Committee's operational procedures was to implement Iowa Code subsection 257.31(4) requiring all school districts to budget using Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.

Motion: It was moved by Mary Jean Montgomery that the Chapter 6, "Duties and Operational Procedures," rule changes be approved for Notice of Intended Action. The motion was seconded by Rosie Hussey.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Rules: Chapter 36, "Extracurricular Interscholastic Competition"

Carol Greta, legal consultant reviewed a side by side comparison of Chapter 36.15 that had been provided to the Board. This chart outlined how the rule currently reads with the proposed rule recommendation. Greta indicated a few other changes had been recommended to this rule that would make language consistent with recently passed legislation.

Mary Jean Montgomery said she liked the four week eligibility period which provided a check every four weeks and would provide more consistency than the semester ineligibility.

Carol Greta provided information on the eligibility periods of other states.

Max Phillips expressed a concern about the eligibility of summer programs and the unintended consequences. Wayne Kobberdahl and Mary Jean Montgomery also felt this concern should be discussed.

Sister Jude Fitzpatrick asked for clarification that both public and nonpublic students would be affected. This information was confirmed.

Tara Richards said that the 4 week eligibility rule was used in her district and she felt it encouraged students to work harder and to stay on track for eligibility.

Greg McClain asked if students were allowed to participate in practice during the ineligible period. Carol Greta confirmed that students could participate. Mr. McClain suggested that the practice time be used for a study period. He also indicated he was not happy with the process used for this recommendation and felt the language that was approved in September was not the language proposed in November. McClain felt that the proposed recommendation was not acceptable to move forward for improving academic excellence and that it was a step backward.

Mr. Kobberdahl felt that the proposed language did not weaken the eligibility language but would strengthen the accountability of both the student and the faculty.

Charlie Edwards stated the Board had charged Gene, himself and Director Jeffrey to work on a proposed recommendation and he felt this proposal was a positive approach in place of a penalty and engaged both student and faculty.

Motion: It was moved by Mary Jean Montgomery and seconded by Charlie Edwards that the Board approve the Notice of Intended Action for the proposed amendments to Chapter 36.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Breaking Barriers to Learning and Teaching Awards

Director Judy Jeffrey, President Gene Vincent and Vice President Sally Frudden presented the Breaking Barriers to Learning and Teaching Awards. The purpose of the Breaking Barrier Awards was to recognize districts that had made significant, measurable improvement in achievement gaps, specifically

improvement in an achievement gap group by 20% or more in at least one grade level and subject, without allowing a subgroup or the all-student group to decrease by more than 5% in any grade level or subject. The following were the 2004-05 recipients:

Ames Community School District
Chariton Community School District
Davis County Community School District
Grinnell-Newburg Community School District
Southeast Polk Community School District

Reducing the Achievement Gap Grant Award Report

Del Hoover, Deputy Division Administrator, Division of Early Childhood, Elementary and Secondary Education reported that with the passage of No Child Left Behind (NCLB), focus had been placed on student achievement and the gaps that exist among some subgroups. In Iowa, the subgroups that districts report included African American students, Hispanic students, Native American students, English language learners, students with Individualized Education Plans (IEP), migrant students, and students eligible for free or reduced lunch. Hoover said the purpose of the grant was to encourage the implementation and use of research based strategies that have the highest probability of improving student achievement by narrowing the achievement gap.

Mr. Hoover indicated that during the 2003-2004 General Assembly, the Legislature directed the Iowa Department of Education to establish a competitive grant program to support school district efforts to address the achievement gap. The four \$125,000 grants awarded were to the following school districts 1) West Liberty; 2) Davenport Community; 3) Carroll Community; and 4) Des Moines Independent.

The Board applauded the work of the grant awardees and recognized the extra efforts in reducing the achievement gap.

High School Update

Director Judy Jeffrey introduced Pamela Pfitzenmaier, Division Administrator, Warren Weber, Consultant and Carol Greta, Legal Consultant to review current statewide high school activities.

They provided progress updates on the following:

- Model Core Curriculum Project (SF 245)
- The High School Summit (January 23-24, 2005)
- Statewide Network of High School Facilitators provided by Area Education Agencies

- The Iowa High School Project Sites Application Process
- State Board Authority regarding high schools. Data about the number of school districts that have increased graduation requirements.

Mary Jean Montgomery and Tara Richards were participants in the Model Core Curriculum Project and shared highlights from their involvement in that meeting.

Update – Summary of FY 07 Offers

Dr. Lee Tack, Administrator, Division of Financial and Information Services, and Roger Stirler, Chief of Internal Operation reviewed the FY 07 proposed budget offers required by the Department of Management. These offers had been discussed with the offers “buying team”. Tack provided information regarding current appropriations as well as appropriations requested for FY07.

State Board Legislative Priorities for 2006

Jeff Berger, Legislative and Policy Liaison, outlined the legislative advocacy platform for the 2006 session. Highlights from the proposed legislative agenda are listed below:

Supporting Improved Academic Achievement

- Continue to improve the funding of the Teacher Quality and Student Achievement Program
- Create an Administrator Quality Program
- Improve access to quality preschool programming
- Provide incentives to increase and improve high school opportunities for students, and for improving efficiencies of school operations and management.

Funding

- General Educational Funding
- Address the need for increased revenues to support funding for education at all levels

K-12:

- Fund at least the four percent allowable growth rate already established in 2006-07.
- Renew the Class Size/Early Intervention program for a period of at least four years and increase the \$30 million per year categorical amount by at least the allowable growth rate.
- Provide financial incentives for operational and administrative sharing efficiencies between school districts.

Community Colleges:

- Increase funding for Iowa's community colleges by \$11,250,000.

AEAs:

- Restore the 10 million dollar reduction to AEAs in FY06.

Department of Education:

- Increase the number of FTEs supporting state mandates and funding priorities.

Board members discussed the proposed priorities and suggested additional language regarding the achievement gap.

Motion: It was moved by Mary Jean Montgomery and seconded by Charlie Edwards to approve the proposed legislative advocacy platform for the 2006 legislative session.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Board Reports

Sister Jude Fitzpatrick reported she and Maryellen Becker were co-chairing the Coordinating Council for Vision Services in Iowa. She had accompanied Director Jeffrey on two community college visits, Indian Hills Community College and Eastern Iowa Community College. She indicated she also would be serving on the NASBE Distinguished Service Award Committee for 2006.

Max Phillips – No report

Mary Jean Montgomery said she had attended the IPTV meeting. The agenda included review of the architectural plans for remodeling the facility. The budget offers for IPTV were finalized. She had also participated in the Core Curriculum Committee.

Montgomery participated in the The Leadership/Partnership Planning Group and heard about the work of groups doing “breakthrough” projects. The agenda also included a discussion of legislative ideas.

Tara Richards indicated she had participated in the NASBE Annual Conference in Phoenix, Arizona. She participated in panel discussions about student state board memberships across the nation. Richards thought it was a rewarding experience.

Sally Frudden reported she met with Dr. Koob, University of Northern Iowa and Max Phillips, Iowa Business Council in September to present the DE offer for voluntary access to Universal Pre-K for 4 year olds.

In October she attended a “Women Who Lead” Conference sponsored by SAI and Heartland AEA in support of early childhood. She had also participated in a visit to Iowa State University Lab School to discuss early childhood. Frudden participated with Director Jeffrey on community college visits to North Iowa Area Community College and Northeast Iowa Area Community College.

On November 3 she attended the superintendent’s meeting at AEA 267 at which Roger Foelske and Dale Gruis from the Department of Education were in attendance. She also attended the Institute for Tomorrow’s Workforce Forum in Mason City.

Frudden stated she had a guided discussion on voluntary Universal Pre-K sponsored by the Pew Charitable Foundation. It was part of an interactive teleconference with Pre-Know.

Wayne Kobberdahl indicated he attended the community college visit at Iowa Western Community College with Judy Jeffrey. Kobberdahl chaired a committee that would be looking at the proposed 5-year plan for community colleges. At the completion of the 5-year plan, a recommendation would be brought to the State Board of Education for approval. He also shared an article about Director Jeffrey that was in the *Nonpareil* newspaper regarding her positive work in education.

Charlie Edwards – No report

Rosie Hussey – No report

Gene Vincent – No report

The list of the proposed topics for the December 16 meeting was handed out.

President Gene Vincent adjourned the meeting at 4:00 p.m.

WORK SESSION: State Board Advocacy Activities

Board members discussed the process for involvement in advocacy activities.

WORK SESSION: Preview of IASB Conference Presentation- *Annual Condition of Education Report*

Judy Jeffrey, Director provided highlights from the 16th *Annual Condition of Education Report*. The 2005 report included information about Iowa’s education system from prekindergarten through high school. The report includes a preface that provides a contextual setting for education as well as a vast amount of information on education in the state. The report provides

information on enrollments, programs, student performance, staff and finance. It serves as a resource document for educators, legislators and citizens seeking information on Iowa's educational system.

Gene Vincent
President

Judy A. Jeffrey, Director
and Executive Director